

Lecture Outline

SLP 1954

CP as an Insurrectionary (Revolutionary) Force

Introduction: A Revolutionary is he who without evasions, unconditionally, openly and honestly and without secret military conferences is ready to uphold and defend the USSR, since the USSR is the first proletarian revolutionary state in the world building socialism. An Internationalist is he who unconditionally, without hesitation and without provisos, is ready to defend the USSR because the USSR is the basis of the world revolutionary movement and to defend and ADVANCE THIS REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT is impossible without defending the USSR. (Stalin)

I. Theory of Revolutionary Action:

"It is clear that the liberation of the oppressed class is impossible, not only without violent revolution, but also without destruction of the apparatus of State power, which was created by the ruling class in which this separation is embodied." (Lenin--State & Revolution)

II. Establishment of Inevitability of Violence:

A. Conditions:

1. The Party was unable to gain its end by propaganda and deception;
2. The Party believes that a revolutionary situation exists because:
  - a. of profound contradictions and conflicts among the non-proletarian classes, which can be utilized to weaken the enemy and strengthen the movement;
  - b. and of contradictions, conflicts and wars among the capitalist countries, which can be utilized by the working classes in their offensive actions against the capitalists;
3. Availability and superiority of revolutionary forces; (i.e. masses and trained revolutionary cadres)
4. Degree of preparation of the working class for revolutionary action;
5. The Party believes that there are reasonable chances of being successful in an contemplated action.

III. Selection, Timing and Determination of Type of Action:

- A. Legal, quasi-legal and tolerated by the government in power;

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B. Illegal (Clandestine-Underground-Irregular, etc.)

Ad. III, A. Legal: (or illegal if Party is suppressed) NOT FOR DISCUSSION

1. Mass Action

Support of CP activities by large numbers of population who are either non-members or relatively untrained party members incapable of playing leading roles in the political action.

a. Positive Mass Action: promoting the Communist cause, anti-Government, mass protest meetings, arranging mass funerals of state leaders, protest marches (hunger, relief, etc.)

2. Demonstrations (parades, outdoor and indoor meetings, anniversary celebrations, etc.)

a. Local

b. Simultaneous (at separated points of a given area)

c. National (in areas where Communist have sufficient strength)

d. International (peace demonstrations, etc.)

(1) opportunity

e. Purposes: to call public attention to Communist programs; opportunity to train CP members in the discipline of demonstrations and technique of influencing large groups of people; a morale builder giving CP members the impression that the Party is an active, fighting organization; in support of USSR objective.

f. Identification of Sponsorship: Communists avoid direct identification of a demonstration and their cause, thus attracting those elements who may sympathize with the objectives of the demonstration, but who are either antagonistic or apathetic toward Communism in general.

g. Procedure, financing and liaison activities before and during a demonstration:

- (1) Slogans, posters, speeches, etc.--selection
- (2) Recruiting of "mass" attendance
- (3) Cell and district participation, organization of all activities
- (4) Radio, press, PA's, etc.
- (5) Collection of funds, donations, etc.

h. "Defense Groups"; (5 men) placing among the crowd start fights with individual police officers, etc.

i. Concealed weapons: lead pipes, bricks, blackjacks, clubs, knives, stick and small firearms.

3. Picketing: (picket lines)--(tolerated)

a. Purposes: propaganda, distribution of CP literature in vicinity of picket line, training of cadres in "mass action," peaceful without any violence in conspicuous places, etc.

b. Types: prevention of crossing of non-strikers into a place where a strike is in progress, denouncing other unions or the management, denouncing certain government or personal actions, (White House), anti-war, anti-conscription, pro-conscientious objectors and a multitude of other objectives.

4. Passive Resistance: (tolerated)

- a. Boycott (Chinese-Japanese goods)
- b. Squatters (London-Hongkong)
- c. Tenants Leagues (China-refuse to pay rent)
- d. Work-slowdowns
- e. Refusal to collect fares on public conveyances (Hongkong)
- f. Sit-down and stay-in strikes (Shanghai)
- g. Misuse of public alarm systems
- h. Pasting and painting derogatory signs on walls (China)

5. Strikes and "engineered lockouts:"

- a. Local, regional, national, world-wide
- b. Political, economic (wages), a sympathetic
- c. Methods and action
- d. Authorized and tolerated unauthorized strikes

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Ad III, B. Illegal:

1. Street Fighting:

a. Preparation and training under the guise of sport clubs; athletic associations; shooting, hunting, cross-country marching groups or similar paramilitary activities; secret lectures on use of firearms, hand grenades, bombs, mines, gas, and close combat, disarming security forces pickets, etc., also use of strike and demonstration for training, hints re evidence of such use.

b. Organization:

(1) Special section (secret) for tactical guidance and action in street fighting. (CP Germany--"Z" and "T" groups.)

(2) "T" terror groups were used in roadblock barricade construction, mining of parade routes (against Nazi snipers), streetcar careening into the milling throngs, etc.

(3) Procurement of arms: storming of ammunition dumps before the outbreak of violence, storming of small security posts, preparing arms from readily available material, use of chemicals such as gasoline, (Molotov cocktails), petroleum, etc.

2. Rioting: (technique used primarily to create civic disorder and disobedience)

Purpose: a. to obstruct the legal functioning of the authorities  
b. to create excitement and mass hysteria  
c. to drive the mass instinct to destruction of public and private property

- (1) Planned riots; used to spread unrest and to sabotage wide areas for the purpose of discrediting authorities in power, (burning of consulates in Canton)  
(2) Spontaneous riots; started for various reasons (Bogota) (sequel to anti-film demonstrations, etc.)  
d. to call attention to the Communist cause without rendering the party vulnerable to physical and legal action.

3. Coup d'Etat: (technique of seizure of power without physical violence)

- a. decision to seize power on an opportune occasion (i.e. parliamentary crisis, etc., Czechoslovakia; blackmail, Rumania)  
b. preparation of the coup  
c. Technique and execution of the Coup d'Etat.

4. Armed Uprising: (insurrection, revolution)

Definition: (Marxist) "An armed uprising is the revolt of the masses against a reactionary regime, aimed at the seizure of power by the REVOLUTIONARY RANKS . . . It is the first phase of Civil War."

- a. conditions: (Marx in "Revolution and Counter-Revolution")  
(1) An uprising should never be attempted unless there is firm resolve to endure all its consequences;  
(2) Once the revolt has started, the offensive must be taken and action must be resolute. Defensive action is the death of any armed uprising;  
(3) Clear and simple rules for the struggle should be established, the most important of which is courage, courage and more courage;  
(4) Numerical superiority should be attempted because the "armed forces" that must be fought have all the advantages of organization, discipline and traditional authority on their side."

Lenin in "Advice of a Stranger" wrote "a great superiority of forces must be concentrated at the decisive place and the decisive moment."

- (5) Anti-Communist forces must be surprised as long as their troops are scattered.

b. Preparations:

- (1) Long-range preparations, training directed by
- (2) Armed Forces Committee and sub-committees that instruct cadres in the use of arms, clubs, through sponsorship of rifle, hunting, sporting, National Guard, TU's, etc.
- (3) Preliminary actions practice: training of
- (4) Combat Units through "Defense Units" which participate in demonstrations, mass-meetings parades, marches or picketing. These units act also as
- (5) Protective Force against the police and security (armed forces). This force assumes leadership in
- (6) Occupation of government buildings, relief stations, sacking of food stores, etc.

c. Procuring of armament:

- (1) Each member of a group, unit, etc., is to his own device to obtain weapons;
- (2) Weapons are secured also through clubs, veteran "souvenirs", raid on hardware stores, NG posts;
- (3) Heavy equipment smuggled across the border with the help of WFTU's important members in strategic transportation jobs, RR, aviation, etc.

d. Direct preparation: (by the Armed Forces Committee)

- (1) Provided the situation is ripe for an uprising
- (2) Case of war situation
- (3) Such activity would be of aid to the advancing Red Army.

e. Organization and execution of the revolt;

- (1) Commands; 5 men group with a 6th as leader  
Company; 5 commands headed a 1 commander  
Battalion; 5 companies with 1 commander
- (2) Numerical combinations beyond this form tactically impractical
- (3) Special groups for seizure of radio, press and other premises, capture important officials, etc.
- (4) Seizure of the City Hall
- (5) Seizure of power houses, transportation facilities and industries depending on power;
- (6) Seizure terminals (rr, bus) airports

- (7) Derailing of trains, overturning of buses to impede government forces, etc.
- (8) Seizure of chief communications, telephone, telegraph, etc.

f. Element of surprise:

- (1) Staging of a number of "trial" mobilizations before making genuine effort;
- (2) Responding to these false alarms the government will become weary and may be UNPREPARED when the real attack takes place;
- (3) Early morning hours are used for striking predestined objectives simultaneously;
- (4) Creation of panic, demoralization of troops, etc.

- 5. Case study of present-day methods of armed insurrection:
- \*6. Resistance (subversive and terror groups)
- \*7. Partisans
- \*8. Guerrilla warfare
- \*9. International brigades and "voluntary" forces
- \*10. Direct Military action in conjunction with USSR Armed Forces
- \*11. Psychological warfare, political, economic, etc.

\*Items listed 6 to 11 are subjects presented by other specialized courses.